

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 2-4 & 8 without prejudice or disclaimer, amend claims 1, 5 and 7-9, and add new claims 10-12 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A portable information terminal comprising:

a body including a first body[[,]] and a second body[[, and]];

a slide mechanism for coupling the two bodies the first body and the second body so that the two bodies are to be slidable towards or away from each other in [[a]] one direction[[,]];

a camera unit for taking an image;

an operation switch unit; and

a display section that displays the image to be taken,

wherein, the slide mechanism couples the first body and the second body so as to take a first state where ~~the second body overlaps the rear of the first body with a behind/front positional relationship~~ the body is shortened in a width direction by sliding the first body towards the second body, [[and]] or a second state where the two bodies are moved away from each other in the direction the body is extended in the width direction by sliding the first body away from the second body,

~~the [[first]] body in the first state includes a portion not overlapped by the second body at one end in the direction~~ has a thin and flat appearance that a dimension of the body in a height direction is larger than a dimension of the body in a depth direction and a dimension of the body in the width direction is larger than the dimension in the height direction, and

the display section is arranged on a front surface of the first body facing away from the second body,

~~the [[a]] camera unit is provided in the portion not overlapped~~ includes a picture taking window mounted on a backside surface of the first body and exposed from the second body in the first state,

the operation switch unit includes a shutter switch, where is arranged on a side surface of the second body to operate the camera unit in the first state.

- 2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A portable information terminal according to claim [[3]]1, wherein,
  - ~~the first body comprises~~ a first speaker section is arranged on the front surface of the first body and at a position opposed to the camera unit across the first body,
  - a thick end part of the second body does not overlap with the first body in the first state and the second state, and
  - a second speaker section is arranged at the thick end part ~~a portion of the second body not overlapped in the first state.~~
  
6. (Original) The portable information terminal according to claim 5, wherein,
  - the first body is provided with a display section and a function keys section, and
  - the display section and the function keys section are arranged between the first speaker section and the second speaker section.
  
7. (Currently Amended) A portable information terminal comprising a body includes a first body including a display section and a function keys section, and a second body including a ten keys section, and a slide mechanism for coupling the two bodies the first body and the second body slidably towards or away from each other, wherein,
  - ~~each of the first body and the second body constitutes~~ the body has a thin and flat ~~[[body]] appearance~~ where a dimension of the body in a height direction is larger than a dimension of the body in a depth direction, as well as ~~[[the]]~~ a dimension of the body in a width direction is larger than the dimension of the body in the height direction, and the thin and flat body has an outer appearance that the dimension in the depth direction becomes gradually thinner from one end to the other end in the width direction,
  - an operation switch unit is arranged on a side surface along the width direction,
  - the first body has a thick end part and a thin end part, and the first body gradually becomes thinner from the thick end part to the thin end part,
  - the second body has a thick end part and a thin end part, and the second body gradually becomes thinner from the thick end part to the thin end part,

~~[[the]]~~ a slide mechanism couples the first body and the second body so that ~~an entire body is in both the first state where the~~ ~~[[two]]~~ first and second bodies are entirely overlapped in a first state~~[[,]]~~ and the first and second bodies are away from each other in a second state where the ~~two bodies are~~ body is extended in the width direction,

the thick end part of the first body includes a ~~portion~~ not overlapped in the first state at the ~~thickest portion in the depth direction~~ second body, and the ~~portion surface of the first body not overlapped is arranged on the backside of the body,~~

the thick end part of the second body includes a ~~portion not overlapped in surface which~~ does not overlap with the first body in the second state, and the thin end part of the second body is partially exposed from the first body at a cut-out portion thereof in the first state ~~at the thickest portion in the depth direction, and the portion not overlapped is arranged on the front side of the body,~~

the first body comprises a display section and a function keys section arranged on a front side of the first body facing away from the second body, a camera unit provided into said the portion surface of the thick end part of the first body to expose from the second body at said cut-out portion in the first state ~~not overlapped in the first state,~~ and a first speaker section provided on the front surface of the body at a position opposed to the camera unit across the first body,

the second body comprises an alphanumeric input keys section arranged on a surface thereof facing the first body and a ~~second speaker~~ microphone section provided into the portion surface at the thick end part of the second body ~~not overlapped in the first state,~~

the display section and the function keys section are arranged between the first speaker section and the ~~second speaker~~ microphone section in the first state, ~~[[and]]~~

the ~~[[ten]]~~ alphanumeric input keys section is exposed on the front surface of the second body arranged between the first speaker section and the microphone section in the second state, and

the operation switch unit includes a shutter switch for operating the camera unit in the first state and the second state.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A portable information terminal according to claim 7, wherein, the second body is provided with a battery which is detachably arranged on a surface of the second body facing away from the first body ~~the backside~~.
10. (New) A portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein,  
the first body has a thick end part and a thin end part, and the first body gradually becoming thinner from the thick end part to the thin end part,  
the second body has a thick end part and a thin end part, and the second body gradually becoming thinner from the thick end part to the thin end part,  
the thick end part of the first body does not overlap with the first body in the first state and the second state, and  
the picture taking window is mounted on at the thick end part of the first body.
11. (New) A portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein  
the picture taking window is exposed from the second body in both the first and second states, and  
the operation switch unit includes the shutter switch operates the camera unit in both the first and second states.
12. (New) A portable information terminal according to claim 7, wherein,  
the operation switch unit includes a mode changeover switch capable of changing an operation mode of the body from a standby status mode to a picture-taking mode  
the shutter switch and the mode changeover switch are arranged along the longitudinal direction of the second body.